

## Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 /049 W

-----043068 242114Z /63

R 242048Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0914  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 08841

DEPT PASS HEW FOR FISCHER

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: TBIO, SWEL, TPHY, UR, US  
SUBJECT: US-USSR HEALTH COOPERATION: CURRENT ISSUES  
(03.00)

REF: (A) STATE 96019, (B) 77 MOSCOW 18152, (C) GREENBERG-  
WILKINSON LETTER OF FEBRUARY 3

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES RUN-DOWN OF CURRENT ISSUES AND PRO-  
BLEMS IN US-USSR HEALTH COOPERATION (REF A). WE HAVE THE  
FOLLOWING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE ISSUES RAISED IN REF A.

2. SOVIET INVITATIONS TO US SCIENTISTS: EMBASSY VIEWS  
RECENT INSTANCES WHERE SOVIETS INITIATED INVITATIONS TO US  
SCIENTISTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN AGREEMENT ACTIVITIES AS  
SOVIET EFFORT TO FOCUS EXCHANGE VISITS OF US SCIENTISTS  
IN AREAS OF MAXIMUM INTEREST AND BENEFIT TO THE USSR. WE  
SEE LITTLE VALUE IN SENDING US SPECIALISTS TO USSR CHIEFLY  
TO DELIVER LECTURES TO THEIR SOVIET COLLEAGUES. IN THIS  
REGARD WE SUPPORT HEW'S DECISION TO TURN OFF THESE SOVIET  
FISHING EXPEDITIONS, IN ORDER TO KEEP AGREEMENT ACTIVITIES  
FOCUSED ON MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATIVE WORK.

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3. HOWEVER, WE ALSO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE THAT EITHER  
PARTY CAN REQUEST VISITS BY SPECIALISTS OF THE OTHER  
COUNTRY. WE WERE UNAWARE OF ANY "UNDERSTANDING" TO THE  
CONTRARY. THE ABILITY TO INVITE SPECIFIC SOVIET SPECIA-  
LISTS CAN BE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SECURING PARTICIPATION  
IN THE AGREEMENTS OF THE BEST QUALIFIED SOVIET SCIENTISTS.  
AS DEPT IS AWARE, PRESIDENTIAL SCIENCE ADVISOR FRANK

PRESS RECENTLY WROTE KIRILLIN ON ONE SUCH CASE, TO SUPPORT THE VISIT OF EMINENT SOVIET SEISMOLOGIST KELIS-BOROK. WE ARE ALSO USING THIS METHOD EFFECTIVELY IN THE PHYSICS SECTION OF THE S&T AGREEMENT.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS: SEVERAL RECENT EMBASSY MESSAGES (REF B AND C) HAVE CALLED ATTENTION TO INCREASING NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS IN PROGRAMS OF US EXCHANGE VISITORS. IN MANY CASES THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MOH) HAS BEEN LESS THAN COOPERATIVE IN RESOLVING SUCH PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARISE AFTER NORMAL WORKING HOURS -- WHEN MOH OFFICIALS, ALONG WITH MOST OF THEIR SOVIET BUREAUCRATIC BRETHREN, ARE COMPLETELY UNREACHABLE. A RECENT EXAMPLE OF THIS PROBLEM OCCURRED APRIL 16, WHEN AT ARRIVING, US EXCHANGEES DR. KAKADI WAS NOT MET AT AIRPORT BY SOVIET HOSTS AND EVENTUALLY WAS FORCED TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT SCICOUNS HOME. MOH LATER CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION ABOUT DR. KAKADI'S ARRIVAL, IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT OIH TELEX CLEARLY INDICATED SHE WILL ARRIVE ON APRIL 16.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE BUNGLING AND INSENSITIVITY TO HUMAN PROBLEMS ARE SOP FOR SOVIET BUREAUCRACY. WE DOUBT THAT BULK OF PROBLEMS CAN BE PERSONALLY ATTRIBUTED TO ANDREY KISELYEV, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INCOMING US EXCHANGEES UNDER THE AGREEMENT. WHEN HE WANTS TO BE, KISELYEV CAN BE EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE, HOWEVER, KISELYEV IS CONFIDENTIAL

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OFTEN UNREACHABLE AND UNWILLING TO EXERT HIMSELF. NEVERTHELESS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE ISSUE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY ADDRESSED BY DEALING WITH PERSONALITIES. WE WOULD THEREFORE NOT RECOMMEND THAT HEW MAKE "ADVERSE REFERENCES" ABOUT KISELYEV TO SOVIET EMBASSY.

6. THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO RESOLVE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF THIS TYPE IS TO HAVE FORMAL, WRITTEN AGREEMENT CONCERNING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE AND ADVANCE PROVISION OF ITINERARY INFORMATION INCLUDED IN NEXT JCM MEMORANDUM. THIS APPROACH HAS BEEN USED IN OTHER AGREEMENTS WHERE SIMILAR PROBLEMS HAVE FREQUENTLY ARISEN AND HAS CAUSED A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET PERFORMANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, BOTH SIDES COULD AGREE TO PROVIDE ACCEPTANCE OF AN EXCHANGEES ON DELEGATIONS AT LEAST ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE AND A FINAL ITINERARY AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

7. EMBASSY ACCOMPANIMENT: EMBASSY APPRECIATES INVITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE TWO US MID-LEVEL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS AND WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ACCOMPANY THEM FOR AT LEAST PART OF THEIR ONE MONTH VISIT. HOWEVER, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE A DEFINITE DECISION ABOUT ACCOM-

PANIMENT UNTIL A LATER DATE, WHEN FALL SCHEDULES BECOME CLEARER. HEW SHOULD ARRANGE THE VISIT OF THE MID-LEVEL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD PROCEDURE, WITHOUT MAKING MENTION OF POSSIBLE EMBASSY ACCOMPANIMENT. EMBASSY WILL NOTIFY MOH AND HEW IF IT INTENDS TO PROVIDE ACCOMPANYING OFFICER, AS WE DO IN OUR OTHER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.

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ACTION HEW-06

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R 242048Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0915  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MOSCOW 08841

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (HEADING & CLASSIFICATION)

8. RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA: EMBASSY SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF USING CLINICAL STUDIES OF THE HEL'HOLTZ TREATMENT FOR RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA AND WE HOPE EFFORT CAN BE MADE TO STUDY AND UTILIZE EXPERIENCE OF INCREASING NUMBERS OF AMERICANS WHO ARE BEING TREATED AT THE HELM'HOLTZ. WE BELIEVE IT MAY BE USEFUL FOR HEW AND EMBASSY TO FOLLOW UP KRASNOV INITIATIVE WITH MOH TO EXPRESS OUR INTEREST IN INCLUDING THIS AREA OF RESEARCH WITHIN OUR COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES. TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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